

Family Fun in Mansfield

May, June, July & August 2012

Special Notes

- **Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry** (486-4605) (bimp.uconn.edu) is located on the UConn Depot Campus and is open to the public Fri., Sat. & Sun. 12n – 5 pm, now through Dec. 16. Don't miss BIMP's new exhibits, *Red Gate: Pauline Benton and Chinese Shadow Theater*, plus *Frank Ballard: Roots and Branches*. Check the website for special programs in the coming months, including the new summer Toy Theater Puppetry Workshop through the Community School of the Arts.
- **Community School of the Arts** (486-1073) (csa.uconn.edu) offers a wide variety of music, art and theater programs for children of all ages. Check the website or call for a copy of the Summer 2012 program brochure.
- **CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center** (486-4460) (mnh.uconn.edu) has a multi-media exhibit, *Human's Nature: A Closer Look at the Relationship Between People and the Environment*, plus a special temporary exhibit, *[Bird] Prints from the Rex Brasher Collection*, through July 31. The Museum is open Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm (closed Sat. and Sun.). Check the website or call for a copy of the Summer 2012 brochure, which includes several programs for children and their families.
- **Gurleyville Gristmill** (429-9671 or 429-9032) (joshuaslandtrust.org), located on Stonemill Rd. in the Gurleyville section of Mansfield, is owned and operated by Joshua's Trust, and is open Sundays from mid-May through mid-October.
- **Husky Heritage Sports Museum** (486-2240) (uconnalumni.com), in the UConn Alumni Center, brings alive remarkable images & stories of UConn's winning teams, determined coaches & gifted student-athletes, and is open Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm.
- **Mansfield Historical Society** (429-6575) (mansfieldct-history.org) is open Sat. and Sun., 1:30-4:30pm, June 3-end of Sept. This year's exhibits include: *Mansfield During the Civil War*, *The CT Soldiers' Orphans' Home*, and a special exhibit to commemorate the 275-year anniversary of the *Storrs Congregational Church*. Special activities on June 3, opening day!
- **Mansfield Parks and Recreation Dept.** (429-3015) (mansfieldct.org) has many classes, programs and activities for young children. Check the Summer 2012 brochure sent to every household for information about summer camps, community gardens, rentals of kayaks and backyard game equipment, **fee waivers** for eligible Mansfield residents, and so much more!
- **Mansfield Public Library** (423-2501) (mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org) is a treasure-trove of free books and other media for children and families and offers 3 drop-in program series for young children: *Wonderful Wednesdays* (all ages with caregiver), 10:30-11:30am, ; June 20-Aug. 15; *Family Storytime* (all ages with caregiver), Saturdays, May 5-Aug. 25; and *Infant and Toddler Time* (birth-age 3 with caregiver), Fridays, 10:30am-12n, May 4-July 27 (but NOT June 1). Also check out the *Summer Reading Programs* plus many special programs and events listed throughout the summer.
- **Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum** (486-2712) (uconnhuskies.com/facilities/freitas-ice-forum.html) is open to the public for skating lessons for ages 4 and up, as well as general skating, for part of the summer. Call or check the website for up-to-date information.
- **Storrs Farmers Market** (storrsfarmersmarket.org) (storrsfarmersmarket@gmail.com) is open 3-6pm Saturdays from May 5-Nov. 17, in the north Mansfield Town Hall parking lot. EAT LOCAL!
- **UConn Co-op** (486-5027) (bookstore.uconn.edu) has a BIG selection of children's books!
- **UConn EEB** (=Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) **Greenhouses** (486-4052) (eeb.uconn.edu/), on the UConn campus, house a huge collection of live plants from all over the world, including a NEW orchid and epiphyte "tree." Open to the public: Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm.
- **UConn Libraries** (lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits) offer exhibits that might be of interest to adults and children.
- **William Benton Museum of Art** (486-1705) (thebenton.org) is located on the UConn campus and is open Tues-Fri., 10am-4:30pm; Sat. & Sun., 1-4:30pm (closed July 4). From June 2-Aug. 5 the museum offers 2 new exhibits: *Four Seasons*; and (of special interest to children) *From Object to Object: Found Sculpture by Leo Sewall*. Check the website for a list of programs and events that might be of interest to families with young children (especially June 2, below).

For more information about the events listed in this calendar, check the following sources:

CSA = Community School of the Arts (UConn) (486-1073) (csa.uconn.edu)
CSMNH = CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center (UConn) (486-4460) (mnh.uconn.edu)
EOS = E.O.Smith High School (487-0877) (eosmith.org)
FMH = Friends of Mansfield Hollow (429-3206) (friendsofmansfieldhollow.org)
JCPA = Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts (486-4226)
MPL = Mansfield Public Library (423-2501) (mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org)
MPRD = Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department (429-3015) (mansfieldct.org)
WBMA = William Benton Museum of Art (486-1705) (thebenton.org)

Many of the following programs require advance registration and/or fees. Call ahead!

Fee waivers are available to eligible Mansfield residents for most Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department programs (429-3015). Scholarships may be available for other fee-based programs listed here.

Summer Vacation Camps, Programs, Workshops, Activities

Contact: *Community School of the Arts* (486-1073; csa.uconn.edu); *CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center* (486-4460; mnh.uconn.edu); *Holiday Hill Day Camp* (423-1375; holidayrecreation.com); *Kids are Scientists Too (KAST)* (486-0551; kast.uconn.edu); *Mansfield Parks & Recreation Dept.* (429-3015; mansfieldct.org); *Mansfield Public Library* (429-2501; mansfieldpubliclibrary.org); *Mt. Hope Montessori School* (423-1070; mounthopemontessori.com)

MAY 2012

May 3 (Thurs.), 7pm – Spring Band Concert by E.O. Smith H.S. students @ the high school auditorium (**EOS**)
May 4 (Fri.), 5:30-8pm – Mansfield Community Playground Design Day @ MMS! Light dinner; activities for kids (**429-3338**)
May 7 (Sun.), 2pm – Concert by CSA's Treblemakers, Jr. Trebles & Tiny Trebles @ von der Mehden Recital Hall, UConn (**CSA**)
May 9 (Wed.), 7:30pm – New puppet short films from around the U.S. and the world @ BIMP (**486-4605**)
May 9 (Wed.), 7pm – Spring Band Concert by Mansfield Middle School students in the MMS auditorium (**MMS**)
May 10 (Thurs.), 7-8pm – Grades 1 & 2 musical performance @ Goodwin Elementary School (**429-6316**)
May 10 (Thurs.), 7pm – Spring Choral Concert by EOSmith students @ EOSmith H.S. Auditorium (**EOS**)
May 10 (Thurs.), CALL for TIME – CSA Middle School Jazz Day concert at von der Mehden Recital Hall, UConn (**CSA**)
May 12 (Sat.), 9am-12n – Garden Gate Club of Mansfield Plant Sale @ Buchanan Auditorium to benefit EOS scholarships

May 12 (Sat.), 9am-12n – Spring Fair @ Storrs Congregational Church (corner of Rte. 195 & N. Eagleville Rd.) (**429-9382**)
 May 12 (Sat.), 10am-3pm – Mt. Hope Montessori School Spring Fair: free fun for the whole family! (rain date: June 2) (**423-1070**)
 May 12 (Sat.), 10am-3pm – Arts Festival at Storrs Community Church to benefit the Haitian Health Foundation (**498-0441**)
 May 16 (Wed.), 7pm – Spring Orchestra Concert by Mansfield Middle School students in the MMS auditorium (**MMS**)
 May 18 (Fri.), 7pm – EOS Drama Club presents Kaufman & Hart's comedy *The Man Who Came for Dinner* (**EOS**)
 May 19 (Sat.), 9am-1pm – Spring Bazaar at the Mansfield Senior Center: plants, food, crafts, white elephants galore! (**429-0262**)
 May 19 (Sat.), 10am-2pm – FFA Plant Sale @ E.O. Smith H.S.; MANY varieties to choose from! (**EOS**)
 May 19 (Sat.), 9:30am-2:30pm – Goodwin Elementary School Annual Fun Fair, rain or shine; lots of fun for all ages (**429-6316**)
 May 19 (Sat.), 10am-12n – The Japanese Barberry: Controlling an Ecosystem Disaster (ages 10 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 May 19 (Sun.), 1pm & 6pm – EOS Drama Club presents Kaufman & Hart's comedy *The Man Who Came for Dinner* (**EOS**)
 May 23 (Wed.), 7pm – Spring Choral Concert by Mansfield Middle School students in the MMS auditorium (**MMS**)
 May 24 (Thurs.), 7pm – Spring Orchestra Concert by E.O. Smith H.S. students in the high school auditorium (**EOS**)
 May 28 (Mon.), 9am – Memorial Day parade and observances in Mansfield Center (if rain: MMS gym) (**429-3302**)
 May 30 (Wed.), 6:30pm – Beginning Band Concert by MMS and elementary school students in MMS auditorium (**MMS**)

JUNE 2012

June 2 (Sat.), 1:45pm-2:15pm – Puppet show for all ages by a student in the UConn Puppet Arts Program! (**WBMA**)
 June 2 (Sat.), 9am – Suzuki String Awards Concert @ Southeast Elementary School (**423-1611**)
 June 2 (Sat.), 10am-2pm – FFA Plant Sale @ E.O. Smith High School; MANY varieties to choose from! (**EOS**)
 June 2 (Sat.), 3pm – Mansfield Library annual plant swap @ Buchanan Center: bring some, take some! Go Green! (**MPL**)

CT Trails Day(s)

June 2 (Sat.), 10am-12n – Family Cruise on the Willimantic River from River Park to Eagleville Lake; **pre-register** (**MPRD**)
 June 2 (Sat.), 10am-c. 12n – Easy, 1-mile walk in Mansfield Hollow State Park along Kettlehole Trail; all ages; no dogs (**FMH**)
 June 3 (Sun.), 1-3:30pm – 3-mile paddle in Mansfield Hollow State Park; **pre-register**; no dogs (June 10 heavy rain date) (**FMH**)
 June 3 (Sun.), 2-4pm – Guided 3m. walk at Dorwart Preserve; start at Lion's Club Memorial Park (ages 5 & up w/adult) (**MPRD**)

June 3 (Sun.), 1:30-4:30 – Special activities at the opening of this year's exhibits @ the Mansfield Historical Society! (**429-6575**)
 June 5 (Tues.), 5:45-8:30pm – Historic Transit of Venus! Program @ UConn (ages 6 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 June 7 (Thurs.), 6-9pm – Dairy Home Companion Variety Show & Fundraiser @ EOS Auditorium (**EOS**)
 June 7-16, various times – Performances of the musical *Man of La Mancha* @ Harriet S. Jorgensen Theatre, UConn (**JCPA**)
 June 9 (Sat.), 10am-12n – Beacon in the Wilderness: The Barkhamsted Lighthouse; on site (ages 8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 June 9 (Sat.), 10am-4pm – Craft and Vendor Fair at Eastbrook Mall; something for everyone! (**456-3066**)
 June 10 (Sun.), 3pm – Choral concert by Take Note! Annual fundraiser @ First Church of Christ, Mansfield Center (**228-2390**)
 June 21 (Thurs.), 12:15pm – Drumming About You – An interactive concert with Bob Bloom @ WBMA, UConn (**WBMA**)
 June 22 (Fri.), 6-7:30pm – Family Pajama Party; after hours fun, including crafts, games & cozy read-alouds (all ages) (**MPL**)
 June 23 (Sat.), 8am-12n – 4th Annual Mansfield Bike Tour, including a Family Fun Ride (rain date Sun., June 24) (**MPRD**)
 June 24 (Sun.), 10am-late afternoon – Bus trip: Boston Red Sox vs. Atlanta Braves game at Fenway Park (**MPRD**)
 June 26 (Tues.), 7pm – David Alan & Bogus: Family Magic Show. Plenty of magic & lots of laughs! (all ages) (**MPL**)
 June 28 (Thurs.), 10:30-11:30am – Be a Stamp Artist: stamp a work of art with a variety of stamps & papers (**MPL**)
 June 30 (Sat.), 10am-1pm – Field Entomology: The Basics. Look for insects in Mansfield! (ages 8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 June 30 (Sat.), 3pm – Phyto-what? New Discoveries in Archaeology via Microscopic Plant Remains (8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)

JULY 2012

July 4 (Wed.), 2pm-c.12m – Bus trip: James Taylor + fireworks at Tanglewood; **register by June 15** (**MPRD**)
 July 6 (Fri.), 2-3pm – Be a Painter: use finger paints, shaving cream paints, textured brushes, rollers & more! (**MPL**)
 July 5 (Thurs.), 6:30-8pm – Shaded Soul Band; free, fun family concert @ Mansfield Community Center (**MPRD**)
 July 12 (Thurs.), 10:30-11:30am – Be a Sculptor: make a 3-D shape creation using different kinds of paper (all ages) (**MPL**)
 July 12 (Thurs.), 6:30-8pm – Mister G; free, fun family concert @ the Mansfield Community Center (**MPRD**)
 July 12-22, various times – Performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* @ Harriet S. Jorgensen Theater (**JCPA**)
 July 13 (Fri.), 2pm – Horizon Wings: The Secret Life of Owls. Meet some real, extraordinary owls! (ages 5 & up) (**MPL**)
 July 13 (Fri.), 4pm – Concert by CSA Rockshop musicians on the green @ Community School of the Arts (**CSA**)
 July 14 (Sat.), 4:30pm to July 15 (Sun.), a.m. – Family Camp Out @ Lion's Club Fields; stargazing, storytelling & more! (**MPRD**)
 July 17 (Tues.), 6-7:30pm – Family Camp-Out: outside games, camping treats and a family sing-along (all ages) (**MPL**)
 July 19 (Thurs.), 6:30-8pm – The Kerry Boys; free, fun family concert @ Mansfield Community Center (**MPRD**)
 July 20 (Fri.), 2-3pm – Be a Nature Weaver: Make beautiful creations from natural materials (**MPL**)
 July 21 (Sat.), 7am-c.6:30pm – Bus trip: 4-hour Whale Watch out of Plymouth, MA; **register by July 6** (**MPRD**)
 July 21 (Sat.), 8am-c. 3pm – 21st Annual CT K9 (Canine) Olympics on UConn Depot campus (police.uconn.edu/k9)
 July 21 (Sat.), 10am-12n – Scientific Illustration – Wildlife! Hands-on scientific illustration workshop (8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 July 21 (Sat.), 10:30am – Pumpernickel Puppets: Sir George & the Dragon!!! (all ages) (**MPL**)
 July 21 (Sat.), 11:30am-2:30pm – Pottery Fair + Food & FUN fundraiser @ CSA for the CSA Scholarship Fund (**CSA**)
 July 24 (Tues.), 7pm – Keith Michael Johnson: Bubbleology. Amazing bubble sculptures + science! (ages 4 & up) (**MPL**)
 July 26 (Thurs.), 10:30-11:30am – Be a Puppet Maker: Make finger puppets, cup puppets and more! (all ages) (**MPL**)
 July 26 (Thurs.), 6:30-8pm – 24th Anniversary Kidsville Kuckoo Revue; free, fun family concert @ Community Center (**MPRD**)
 July 28 (Sat.), 10am-3:30pm – Project O: In the Lab & Out to Sea at Avery Point; BYO picnic (ages 6 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 July 31 (Tues.), 2pm – CAN DO: Canterbury Agility Non-Stop Organization's dogs' amazing skills! (all ages) (**MPL**)

AUGUST 2012

Aug. 3 (Fri.), 4pm – Jazz concert by CSA Jazz “Boot Camp” students in von der Mehden Recital Hall, UConn (**CSA**)
 Aug. 3 (Fri.), 2-3pm – Be an Inventor: start with a box (bring your own if you can) and invent something! (**MPL**)
 Aug. 4 (Sat.), 8:30am-early evening – Bus trip: New York Yankees vs. Seattle Mariners @ Yankee Stadium (**MPRD**)
 Aug. 9 (Thurs.), 2-3:30pm – Ice Cream Social! Fun & games and make your own sundae! (all ages) (**MPL**)
 Aug. 11 (Sat.), 1-3pm – Fish Field Sampling. What kind of fish live in Mansfield Hollow Reservoir? (8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)
 Aug. 18 (Sat.), 10-11:30am-- Historic Cedar Hill Cemetery Walk; tour this unusual place in Hartford (8 & up w/adult) (**CSMNH**)

Family Fun in Mansfield is compiled 3 times/year (Jan.-April; May-Aug. And Sept.-Dec.) by Becky Lehmann for Mansfield Advocates for Children. Please contact her (423-5807; slehmann@snet.net) if you wish to suggest items for future editions. Publication of *Family Fun in Mansfield* is supported by a grant from the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Foundation.